

Trek Fun Club
Book List

1/22/2012

Author	Title	Summary
Pat Conroy	South of Broad - read for 4/19/2012	Leopold Bloom King, the narrator, is the son of an amiable, loving father who teaches science at the local high school. His mother, an ex-nun, is the high school principal and a well-known Joyce scholar. After Leo's older brother commits suicide at the age of thirteen, the family struggles with the shattering effects of his death. The novel alternates between 1969, black and white, straight and gay, Appalachian-poor and old-Charleston-rich.
James Michener	Recessional - read for 4/19/2012	Illuminates the challenges of aging and the folly of youth in a Florida retirement home known as the Palms
Markus Zusak	The Book Thief - read for 1/19/2012	Narrated by Death, it recounts the images of Nazi Germany, friendship and loss. Liesel is a book thief living with a foster family in Germany. Her foster father shows her the power of words as they share reading sessions. Follow Liesel over the years as she learns the true meaning of family
David Baldacci	Hell's Corner - read for 1/19/2012	Mystery thriller; Oliver Stone is recruited by the President of the US to serve on a top secret mission. Before he can leave a bomb explodes near the White House. Oliver and the Camel Club guys are working to solve the case.
Abraham Verghese	Cutting for Stone	Marion & Shiva Stone are twins brothers born of a secret union between an Indian nun and a British surgeon at a mission hospital in Ethiopia
Alexander McCall Smith	44 Scotland Street series; 7 stories to date	Stories of the people who live at #44 Scotland St
Alexander McCall Smith	Ladies #1 Detective Agency; 14 stories to date	Precious Ramotswe, Botswana's only and finest female private detective, solves all kinds of cases. Her life inter acts with others around her.
Alexander McCall Smith	Corduroy Mansions; 3 stories to date	Set in London's Pimlico area and stories of the people who live in the mansion
Alexander McCall Smith	Sunday Philosphy Club; 8 stories to date	Amateur sleuth Isabel Dalhousie is a philosopher who also solves mysteries. The story includes many of the people around her.
Anchee Min	Pearl of China	The rise of communism and the ejection of missionaries. Living in extreme poverty the story relates the life of a young girl and her father as they follow the missionary solely to be able to acquire the needed food for their family
Chris Cleave	Little Bee	A 16 yr old refugee from Nigeria and the horrible things that happen to her and other characters; the abyss between first and third world countries; the dark politics of oil; the plight of refugees; and insight into the detention centers in the UK.
Christopher McDougall	Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World Has Never Seen	McDougall sets off to find a tribe of the world's greatest distance runners and learn their secrets, and in the process show us that everything we thought we knew about running is wrong
Cokie Roberts	Founding Mothers: The Women who Raised our Nation	Tribute to the wives of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence and other women of that era.
Dave Eggers	Zeitoun	The true story of one family, caught between America's two biggest policy disasters: the war on terror and the response to Hurricane Katrina.
David Ebershoff	19th wife	Historical novel about the roots of the 19th century polygamy and a modern day polygamist murder mystery. Story of Brigham Young's 19th wife
David McCullough	The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris	Story of famous Americans in Paris in the 19 th century
Emma Donoghue	Room	Five-year-old Jack and his Ma live and eat and play and sleep in one room--an 11x11-foot space that is their prison--captives of the terrifying man Jack calls Old Nick. Despite its profoundly disturbing premise, Emma Donoghue's Room is rife with moments of hope and beauty, and the dogged determination to live, even in the most desolate circumstances.
Erik Larson	In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin	Story set during Hitler's rise to power
Erik Larson	The Devil and the White City, Murder, Magic and Madness	Building of the Chicago 1893 World's Fair and the sensational and gruesome story of the first American equivalent of Jack the Ripper
Erik Larson	Thunderstruck	How Marconi struggled to popularize and refine radio technology by trial and error; and the story of how Harley Crippen became a famous criminal

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Erik Larson	Isaac's Storm: A Man, A time and the Deadliest Hurricane	Hurricane that hit Galveston
Garth Stein	Art of Racing in the Rain	An amateur racer who still has a day job, shares his trials and dreams with his dog Enzo. Everything is seen through Enzo's eyes
Greg Loomis	Sinai Secret (Lang Reilly thriller)	The murder of a research scientist in Georgia sets Lang Reilly on a worldwide chase to uncover secrets that could upset the balance of power in the Middle East—and unleash a weapon more powerful than a nuclear bomb.
Hendrik Willem Van Loon	Life and Times of Rembrants	This is a journal, written by a famous and respected practicing medical doctor/surgeon, who met Rembrandt because his wife became his patient. They begin a life-long friendship that ebbs and flows through the fascinating history of their era, crossing continents, and spanning the volatile shifts in political control, here (USA) as well as
James Michener	Caravans: a Novel of Afghanistan	A mix of the allure of the past with the dangers of today; an American girl marries an Afghan engineer and her parents hear nothing from her.
Jamie Ford	Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet	Henry Lee comes upon a crowd gathered outside the Panama Hotel, once the gateway to Seattle's Japantown; discoveries of the belongings of Japanese families left when they were rounded up and sent to internment camps.
Jonathan Franzen	Freedom	Oprah's Book Club. A midwestern family who make a life together and over time slowly lose track of each other. Their stories align with big issues - mountaintop removal, war profiteering, and rock 'n roll.
Julia Gelardi	From Splendor to Revolution: The Romanov Women, 1847-1928	Biography of the lives of the Romanov women related by blood and marriage
Katherine Howe	The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane	Uncovering the past when going through her grandmothers things she discovers and old bible and a key that contains a scroll with the name of Deliverance Dane. Deliverance Dane was a witch during the famous Salem Witch trials.
Kathryn Stockett	The Help	The story of black maids working for white women in Mississippi during the 60's give an insiders' view of child rearing, Junior League benefits, town gossip, and race relations
Lisa Genova	Still Alice	Alice Howland is a respected Professor of Psychology at Harvard. She has early onset Alzheimer's
Lisa See	Snow Flower & Secret Fan	Fascinating story of girls in the 19th century in China that reveals the secrets behind the binding of the feet and the secret writing. A group of young girls form a long lasting friendship.
Lisa See	Shanghai girls	Portrait of life in pre WWII in Shanghai and the Japanese invasion of China and its
Rebecca Skloot	Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks	Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa
Roberta Gately	Lipstick in Afghanistan	Her experience as a nurse in third world war zones is a moving story of offering help and finding hope in the last place she expected
Sara Gruen	Ape House	Family of bonobo apes are kidnapped from a language laboratory and their appearance on a reality TV show calls into question our assumption about these animals who share 99.4% of our DNA
Sara Gruen	Water for Elephants	As a young man, Jacob Jankowski was tossed by fate onto a rickety train that was home to the Benzini Brothers Most Spectacular Show on Earth. It was the early part of the great Depression, and for Jacob, now ninety, the circus world he remembers was both his salvation and a living hell.
Tom Rob Smith	Child 44	Historical fiction of Andrei Chikatilo, Russian serial killer who killed at large in the Soviet Union from 1978-1990; book is set in the early 1950's
Tracy Chevalier	Remarkable Creatures	Discovered on the fossil strewn beaches of the English coast, there are unusual fossilized skeleton in the cliffs
Wes Moore	Other Wes Moore	A young black man rose from a life of crime and poverty to be awarded the Rhodes Scholar. Another man with the same name was in prison for murder. The story is of these 2 men and how their live paths diverged. The forks in the road are key to what happens.